

Appendix B: Summary of Basic Needs Questions Included in SIPP Surveys

Type of Hardship	Survey Questions in the 1991 and 1992 SIPP Survey Panels	Survey Questions in the 1993 Basic Needs Topical Module
Food Security	<p>Which of these statements best describes the food eaten in your household in the last four months? (Enough of the kinds of food we want; Enough but not always the kinds of food we want to eat; Sometimes not enough to eat; Often not enough to eat)</p> <p>In which months did the household not have enough to eat?</p> <p>Which of the following reasons explain why your family did not have enough food? (Did not have enough money, food stamps, or WIC vouchers to buy food or beverages; Did not have working appliances for storing or preparing foods – such as a stove or refrigerator; Did not have transportation – transportation problems; Some other reason)</p> <p>Thinking about the past month, how many days did your household have no food or money or food stamps to buy food?</p> <p>About how much did your household fall short on its food budget last month?</p>	<p>Which of the following statements best describes the amount of food eaten in our household? (Enough food to eat; Sometimes not enough to eat; Often not enough to eat)</p> <p>Do you have enough and the kind of food you want to eat, or do you have enough but not always the kind of food your want to eat?</p> <p>Thinking now about the past four months, in which of those four months did your household not have enough to eat?</p> <p>Here are some reasons why people don't always have enough to eat. For each of these, please tell me whether it applies to you. (Not enough money for food; Too hard to get to the store; No working stove; No working refrigerator; Not able to cook or eat because of health problems)</p> <p>Now, please think about the past 30 days. On about how many days during the past 30 days did your household not have food to make a meal or not have money or food stamps to get food?</p> <p>About how much money did your household fall short on its food budget last month?</p>
Housing-Quality	Are any of the following conditions present in this home? (A leaking roof or ceiling; A toilet, hot water heater, or other plumbing that doesn't work; Broken windows; Exposed electrical wires; Rats, mice, roaches, or other insects; Holes in floor – large enough to trip in; Open cracks or holes in the walls or ceiling)	None.
Housing-Crowding	How many rooms are there in your home? Count the kitchen but do not count the bathrooms?	None.
Housing-Security	<p>In the past 12 months, has there been a time when your household:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Did not pay the full amount of the rent or mortgage? ▪ Was evicted from your home/apartment for not paying the rent or mortgage? 	<p>In the past 12 months, has there been a time when your household:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Did not pay the full amount of the rent or mortgage? ▪ Was evicted from your home/apartment for not paying the rent or mortgage?
Difficulty Affording Basic Necessities	In the past 12 months, has there been a time when your household had services disconnected by the telephone company because payments were not made?	<p>In the past 12 months, has there been a time when your household:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Did not pay the full amount of the gas, oil, or electricity bills? ▪ Had service turned off by the gas company, or oil company would not deliver oil? ▪ Had service disconnected by the telephone company because payments were not made?
Unmet Medical Needs/Access to Health Care/Health Insurance Coverage	<p>In the past 12 months, has there been a time when your household:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Had someone in your household who needed to see a doctor or go the hospital but didn't go? ▪ Had someone who needed to see a dentist but didn't go? 	<p>In the past 12 months, has there been a time when your household:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Had someone in your household who needed to see a doctor or go the hospital but didn't go? ▪ Had someone who needed to see a dentist but didn't go?
Access to Consumer Durables	Which of the following items do you currently have in your home (or building) that are in working? (Washing machine; Clothes dryer; Dishwasher; Refrigerator; Food freezer; Color television; Gas or electric stove; Microwave oven; Videocassette recorder; Air conditioner; Personal computer; Telephone)	None.

